Dedham June 20. 1842

My Dear Friend:

I have somewhat to ask of thee and it is this. I have an article for the next N.R. in the hands of Garrison which a proof is now ready. It is on the "Poetry of Hanging" being a noticed Wordsworth sonnet. Now, between ourselves, I think that it is pretty good, & I begrudge seeing it spoiled by the vile mis-prints which make most of my articles hideous. What I want you to do is to step in at the printing office if you are down in town this morning and read the proof for me (it will not take you five minutes) and see that the types have not spoiled some of my points. And at the same time please deliver this other article to G. for insertion. What thou does do quickly. For the paper will go to press this afternoon & the corrections must be made before then. This all goes on the hypothesis that money enough has come in to enable the N.R. to go on. Should this not be the case I should like to have the article I send you herewith — on the impending murder of Buttacis — put in the next Liberator — put in then at any rate called "Lynch Law" something to the same effect. I should have no objection to having the "Poetry of Hanging" appear in the Liberator, too, — after it has been in the N.R. This same "Poetry of Hanging" you will recognize as an old acquaintance if you have ever received the

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long letter I sent you when at Haiti & have had the patience to read the same - for I do remember me that I wrote you something marvellously to the same effect. But perhaps the cold of that valuable production helped to swell the calamity of late Haitian, so that I shall escape the censure of commentators yet unborn of stealing from myself.

What a deal of business Collins has been doing! The poor dem R. G. Committee will stare to see what a quantity of work he has laid out for them & will carry through. He has certainly a large proportion of the steam-engine in his composition & goes ahead in a style that is a caution to cripples. I hope Garrison & Phillips will take his advice touching going to Gerrit Smith's Convention. My own soul is not over & above prophetic but it did misgive me when G. proposed to me to go out with him. Collins plan for using Garrison for from backs in New York is I think a capital one. And I will be willing to furnish editorial for one half of the Lib.r during his absence - if you will provide for the other half. I have no doubt that the influence of G. Smith, Gerrit Smith & co would be paralyzed by his presence & action - & that a capital & old organization & centre-blowing might be created which would yield a hundred fold. They are, most of them, 3.d party men because they know no better & do not know how to go to work for themselves in a better way. Only show them the way & furnish them the organization & I am sure that Third Party will melt away like snow before the sun - or like grease before the fire - or like anything

other melting amalgamate either celestial or culinary.

By the way what a good Lect. Garrison gave us last week. And so O'Connell has new organized! But I am not much surprised at it. I had never very firm faith in him. And what a good Herald of Freedom too! Rogers ~~account~~ description of the Meeting ~~House~~ & the services was in his best style. And did you observe (I know you did & can hear you carousing it in my mind's ear) the ~~description of~~ account of Moses A. Cartland's (for him it must have been) celestial conversation with me on the way to N. G.? It's too bad that a plain honest countryman cannot go to meeting without being pilloried in the newspapers and called names - even the name of a Heathen Greek. "Bee-lipped" - forsooth! But that is probably a misprint for big lipped. "Silver tongued"! I ~~wonder what Jones would give me for it.~~ ~~wish I had some silver tongued~~ It's enough to make a Respectable sinner after he had attained to a sinless state. As it was, I couldn't help saying "the devil". "The Anti-Slavery Plato!" The Anti-Slavery Pompey or Caffee would have been something to the purpose. I shall ask Friend Cartland when he next describes me the same favor that Charles Lamb asked of Coleridge when he called him "his gentle hearted Charley;" he asked him to blot out "jealle-hearted & incest drunken-dog, rapped-headed, sold-shaven, odd-eyed, shuffering, & any other epithet that properly belongs to the gentleman in question.

But I must stop or be too late for the cars. I shall be in town some time this week & will affix for you the "treat of a brief converse" with me - & poke at you some of that "high philosophy" which induces my conversation. Love to Charmian & all.

Affectionately yours

The Anti-Slavery Plato.

From The Groves of Academy.

P. S. Are you not coming out to see me soon? We are in good health & high hearty. Don't come Thursday for that is a Temperance Convention Day. I delivered my first Temperance Address last night & walked into the ministers. I had a paper prepared on your Revival but had to omit it for want of time. I don't know that it might not do for the month if you could get it

E. Dunn

1842.

June 20

Maria W. Stephens

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me an invitation — though I do not approve of going Temperance about the country. Why do some of you write me something What is that miserable Caroline about? Does not she know that the Pres.t of her Co. Loc. stands in the pastoral relation to her & requires all the attention & respectful gifts of a Father Confessor.

C. —

MS A.9.3.17.44